
INTRODUCTION

SIGNIFICANCE OF ALTERNATIVES

This packet contains descriptions of the 20 draft alternatives, along with supporting information such as a glossary and a list of “core actions” designed to aid your review of the alternatives. (See below for more information about core actions.)

Each draft alternative is a *combination of actions* – such as operational and policy changes, habitat restoration, and water flow adjustments – that together form a comprehensive solution to problems in the Bay-Delta’s four critical areas: ecosystem health, water quality, water supply, and vulnerability to disaster.

These draft alternatives result from considerable technical analysis, as well as interaction with the public, including agricultural, environmental, and urban water users. Far from being final products, the draft alternatives are **subject to significant change** based on further public input and technical analysis, including the possibility of combining portions of several alternatives to develop a new alternative. These 20 draft alternatives represent only a step, albeit an important one, in the process of developing a short list of supportable Bay-Delta solutions.

PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS LIST

This list of 20 alternatives is intended to capture the full range of reasonable solutions to Bay-Delta problems in the four critical areas of ecosystem health, water quality, water supply, and vulnerability to disaster. Given this emphasis on creating a diverse list of solutions, you will find some alternatives you like and others that you dislike. You will also note that the alternative descriptions focus on **broad outlines** rather than on details of implementation.

YOUR INPUT IS CRITICAL

During the workshop, we will ask you and the other participants to evaluate these draft alternatives and offer conceptual and technical input into the refinement process. Among the things you will consider is the alternatives' ability to achieve the program objectives and address solution principles. *Before the workshop, please become familiar with these alternatives.*

As you review these materials, please consider these questions:

Do the draft alternatives represent a full range of reasonable approaches to resolving Bay-Delta problems?

What, if any, major approaches and actions have been omitted?